



Texas Department of Health

Basic (Level IV) Trauma Facility Standards

A Level IV Trauma Facility will be an active participant in its regional EMS/Trauma System.

A Level IV Trauma Facility will have an established relationship with the tertiary trauma facility (ies) in the Trauma Service Area, to include written transfer agreements.

A Level IV Trauma Facility will have an established relationship with the EMS Providers who transport to the facility to facilitate adequate pre-arrival notification, appropriate documentation, and appropriate prehospital care.

A Level IV Trauma Facility is available to stabilize all major and severe trauma patients 24 hours per day/seven days per week. Diversion of such patients to other facilities should be made rarely and only when resources are not available in the emergency department to stabilize and transfer these patients.

The severe or major trauma patient will be met on arrival at the Emergency Department by a team of health care professions with documented education and skill in the assessment and care of injuries.

The severe or major trauma patient will be rapidly assessed, resuscitated, and stabilized according to ATLS/TNCC standards.

The patient will be treated per established standards and protocols within the capability of the facility.

Disposition decisions will be made expeditiously by a physician at the hospital and preparations for transfer begun as soon after arrival at the facility as possible.

Severe or major trauma patients who are inappropriately retained longer than 2 hours will receive the same level of care as the highest available within the Trauma Service Area.

All severe or major trauma patients' charts will be reviewed by the hospital for appropriateness and quality of care provided by the hospital. Deviations from standard will be addressed through a documented trauma performance improvement process.

The state data set essential items will be uploaded to the state trauma registry on at least a quarterly basis.